THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The delegation comprising of Forest Minister of Andhra Pradesh and other State Officials met with the Minister for Environment and Forests at New Delhi recently and discussed the issue of eco-tourism projects of Andhra Pradesh. It was decided in the meeting that a proposal would be submitted for prior approval of the Central Government under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 based on the discussions.

International Conference on Eco-Design

4390. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether during last November, Two-day International Conference on Eco-design was held in Delhi, if so, the details of the areas covered by the Conference;

(b) what were the recommendations made at the end of the Conference;

(c) whether Government have implemented the same or formulated any strategy to reduce environmental load;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV) : (a) An International Workshop on EU-India Economic Cross Cultural Programme (ECCP) was held in New Delhi on 14-15 November, 2002 under the project "Indian European Eco-Design Programme" to review the previous phase of the programme, examine its success and failures and make informed recommendations for the next phase.

(b) to (d) The workshop recommended taking up relevant projects in the target areas of media and communications, entrepreneurial networking and universities and studies under the ECCP. The Government has entered into an umbrella Memorandum of Understanding with the European Commission for the implementation of ECCP. The programme aims to create and serve as a framework for organization of integrated activities with the purpose of raising the profile of Europe and India through focussed projects under the ECCP.

(e) Does not arise.